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## PARITY PRICES

A List of Selected References  
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AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. A price policy for agriculture, consistent with economic progress, that will promote adequate and more stable income from farming. J. Farm Econ. 27:743-902. Nov.1945. 280.8 J822

Award-winning papers of the contest sponsored by the Association. The parity-price problem is discussed or mentioned in each of the 18 papers.

A topical digest of these papers, by W. H. Nicholls and D. G. Johnson, appears in J. Farm Econ. 28:267-283. Feb.1946. Criticisms of parity price, and suggested revisions of present practices are summarized, p. 269-270. Additional discussion of the conclusions reached in the winning papers appear p. 284-293, by L. H. Simerl and R. K. Froker.

AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. COMMITTEE ON PARITY CONCEPTS. Agricultural economists' views on farm price policy. J. Farm Econ. 28:604-607. May 1946. 280.8 J822

Results of a survey of Association members.

AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. COMMITTEE ON PARITY CONCEPTS. Outline of a price policy for American agriculture for the postwar period. J. Farm Econ. 28:380-397. Feb.1946. 280.8 J822

Includes the rise of the parity concept, and the trend in parity legislation.

AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. SPECIAL COMMITTEE. On the redefinition of parity price and parity income. J. Farm Econ. 24(4):1358-1377. Nov.1947. 280.8 J822

In addition to the Committee's conclusions, presents dissenting and modifying opinions.

ARANT, W. D. Farm parity fallacy. New York, Natl. Econ. League, 1941. 18 p. Ref. 284.3 Ar1

Contents include: What is parity?; The base period; Prices received by farmers; Prices paid by farmers; Regional inequalities; Is parity the upper limit?; Income parity; A third type of parity; Agriculture and the War.

BACKMAN, J. Price practices and price policies; selected writings. New York, Ronald, 1953. 660 p. 284.3 B12P

Ch. 11, Agricultural prices, contains a section on the determination of parity price, from U. S. Department of Agriculture sources, and a critical appraisal of parity prices from a report by the American Farm Economic Association Committee on Parity Concepts.

BENEDICT, M. R. Farm policies of the United States, 1790-1950; a study of their origins and development. New York, Twentieth Century Fund, 1953. 548 p. Ref. 281.12 B43F

Traces the history of the parity concept, its promotion by various groups, its embodiment in legislation, and its application.



BLACK, J. D. Parity, parity, parity. Cambridge, Mass., Harvard Comt. on Res. Soc. Sci., 1942. 367 p. 284.3 B56

In addition to an analysis of the parity concept, parity prices, and alternative standards of parity, relates the agricultural parity problem to parity for labor and parity for capital.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Parity for agriculture. Washington, 1943. 43 p. 284.3 C352

A report prepared by the Committee for Agriculture, to present information regarding the parity concept and its application to agricultural prices and income.

Contents: What is parity? Parity legislation; Prices paid by farmers; The base period; Parity income for farmers; Conclusions.

ERDMAN, H. E. Defects of the parity concept in agricultural prices. Pacific Coast Econ. Assoc. Papers 1942:60-66. Ref. 1942, pub. 1943. 280.9 P11

Contents: Definitions of parity price and parity income; How parity concept is applied; Fallacious assumptions of the parity approach; Parity not a measure of fairness; Parity concept no guide to peacetime agricultural policy; Parity adds to confusion in wartime; Alternatives to the parity approach.

FARM FOUNDATION. Turning the searchlight on farm policy; a forthright analysis of experience, lessons, criteria, and recommendations. Chicago, 1952. 82 p. 281.12 F223T

Parity prices and equality for agriculture, p. 32-34. Recommends abandonment of the parity-price formula, p. 78-80.

FITE, G. C. George N. Peek and the fight for farm parity. Norman, U. Okla. Press, 1954. 314 p. Ref. 120 P34

HENDERSON, H. W. Price programs of the United States Department of Agriculture. U. S. D. A. Agr. Inform. B. 13, rev., 94 p. Dec. 1953. 1 Ag84Ab

Section on parity, p. 40-51, includes a definition of parity price, a review of the computation of parity, and a summary of its embodiment in law. Subsections entitled New Parity, Old Parity, Transitional Parity, Prices Received by Farmers, Prices Paid by Farmers, and the Parity Ratio, The "Parity Index", and Percentage Weights Used in Computing the Parity Index.

JESNESS, O. B., ed. Readings on agricultural policy. Philadelphia, Blakiston, 1950. 470 p. Ref. 281.12 J49R

Sponsored by the American Farm Economic Association.

Pt. 2, Price and production adjustment, reprints several writings on parity price which have appeared in the Journal of Farm Economics and in other sources.

Partial contents: The evolution of parity, by J. D. Black, p. 91-105; Outline of a price policy for American agriculture for the postwar period, by the Committee on Parity Concepts, p. 124-140; On the redefinition of parity price and parity income, p. 203-221.

\*MOATS, R. H. Getting a better understanding about parity prices, Pt. 1. Agr. Situation 39(5):3-4. May 1955. 1 Ec7Ag

PEEK, G. N., and JOHNSON, H. S. Equality for agriculture. Moline, Ill., Harrington, 1922. 47 p. 285 P34

An early expression of the parity concept: Fair exchange value, p. 22-30.

RANDALL, C. K. Parity prices. Agr. Econ. Res. 1(1):11-13. Jan. 1949. 1 Ec7Ag

A review of revisions in the level of parity prices and in methods of calculation of parity, occasioned by the Agricultural Act of 1948.

Contents: Review of present practice; Revision of formula; Practices under new formula; How it works out; Publication of parity prices; Redefinition of parity income.

\*Pt. 2 scheduled to appear in July, 1955.



SHEPHERD, G. S. Agricultural price analysis. Ed. 3. Ames, Iowa State Col. Press, 1950. 279 p. 284.3 Sh4Ag Ed. 3

Ch. 17, Parity prices for farm products, traces the beginnings of the parity concept, explains the selection of the 1909-14 base, discusses the legal basis for parity through 1949, and gives calculation of current parity prices. Ch. 18, Modernized parity prices.

SHEPHERD, G. S. Agricultural price policy. Ed. 2. Ames, Iowa State Col. Press, 1947. 440 p. Ref. 284.3 Sh4A

Revision, and development, of the parity-price formula, p. 256-268.

SHEPHERD, G. S. What should go into the parity price formula? J. Farm Econ. 35:159-172. May 1953. 280.8 J822

Discusses the long-run factors which the formula should contain.

SHIDELER, J. H. The development of the parity price formula for agriculture, 1919-1923. Agr. Hist. 27:77-84. Ref. July 1953. 30.98 Ag8

Also discusses the development of the parity concept, and its application. Includes the people associated with it, and the political background of parity.

STAUBER, B. R., KOFFSKY, N. M., and RANDALL, C. K. The revised price indexes; the 1950 revision of the BAE indexes of prices received by farmers, and of prices paid by farmers, including interest, taxes, and farm wage rates. Agr. Econ. Res. 2(2):33-62. Ref. Apr. 1950. 1 Ec7Agr

Includes the use of these indexes in calculating parity prices.

THACKREY, J. F. Parity; some questions and answers. Agr. Situation 35 (3):3-4. Mar. 1951. 1 Ec7Ag

Questions as follows: How are parity prices determined? Why are both formulas being used to figure parity prices? How are "effective" parity prices determined? How long will both formulas continue to be used? How is the new parity formula different from the old? What was the reason for taking wage rates into account in calculating parity? What is the purpose of the moving base period? How does the moving base period affect parity prices of individual farm products? How does the use of the moving base period affect the general level of parity? Which formula is used in determining the general level of parity? Why do parity prices change?

THOMSEN, F. L., and FOOTE, R. J. Agricultural prices. Ed. 2. New York, McGraw-Hill, 1952. 509 p. 284.3 T38

Parity price and the economic significance of parity, p. 265-269.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERV. Parity and average prices received by farmers for agricultural commodities, January 1955. Agr. Prices Jan. 1955, sup. 1:43-50. 1.942 A8M58

Discusses legal provisions and late methods for computing parity price.

The parity index is published monthly in Agricultural Prices.

U. S. CONGRESS. HOUSE. COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE. Agricultural Act of 1948 (Aiken bill). Hearings Pt. 1, 81st Cong., 1st sess., on amendments to Public Law 897, Feb. 23-Mar. 18, 1949. Washington, 1949. 248 p. 281.12 Un322

"New parity," p. 41-43. Discussion throughout.

U. S. CONGRESS. SENATE. COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY. Agricultural Act of 1948. Hearings, 80th Cong., 2d sess., on S. 2318, a bill to provide for a coordinated agricultural program, April 12-24, 1948. Washington, 1948. 468 p. 281.12 Un3Ah

Contains statements of Secretary of Agriculture Anderson regarding the redefinition of parity price, and its new applications under the bill. Also contains opinions of representatives of various farmer groups and associations.

U. S. PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMIN. OFF. OF PRICE. Parity handbook. Washington, 1952. 40 p. 1.956 P93P21

U. S. Bur. of Agricultural Economics cooperating.

Contents: Pt. 1, Parity in brief; Background of parity price; Different types of parity price; The general parity ratio; What uses are made of parity price?; What type of a price is parity price?; Definition of terms or phrases using parity; Parity income. Pt. 2, Index of prices paid by farmers; Pt. 3, Index of prices received by farmers.

WAITE, W. C., and TRELOGAN, H. C. Agricultural market prices. Ed. 2. New York, Wiley, 1951. 440 p. Ref. 284.3 W13

An explanation of parity price and its embodiment in legislation, p. 28-32; factors effecting parity ratio, p. 222.

WALLACE, H. A. Agricultural prices. Des Moines, Wallace Pub. Co., 1920. 224 p. 284.3 W15

An early discussion of "the ratio method of price determination."

WRIGHT, K. T. Basic weaknesses of the parity price formula for a period of extensive adjustments in agriculture. J. Farm Econ. 28:294-300. Feb. 1946. 280.8 J822

Weaknesses discussed are: Price parity does not guarantee income parity; the base period 1910-14; the weighting of items in the parity formula; disregard for technological progress in production methods; and others.







